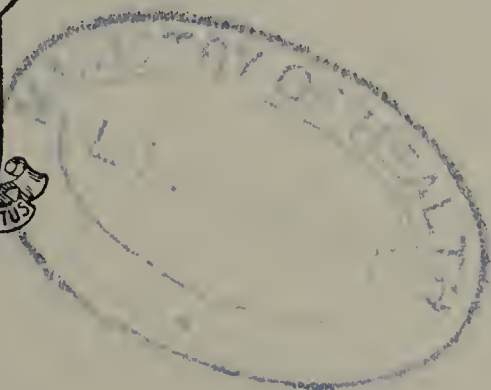


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Winsford Urban District Council

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER, 1952



# Members of the Urban District Council of Winsford.

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*Chairman of the Council :*  
Councillor W. STUBBS, J.P.

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*Vice-Chairman of the Council :*  
Councillor Mrs. O. O. BELLAMY.

---

*Chairman of the Health Committee :*  
Councillor T. BRATT, J.P.

---

*Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee :*  
Councillor Mrs. O. O. BELLAMY.

---

*Members of the Health Committee :*  
Councillor R. G. Barton, J.P.

„ A. Breeze.  
„ J. H. Booth.  
„ W. E. Dickinson.  
„ J. A. Fitton.  
„ J. Jackson.  
„ L. Jackson.  
„ H. Lunt.  
„ F. Mellor, M.M., J.P.  
„ W. F. Newall.  
„ S. Sergeant.  
„ J. N. Wilson, C.C.

# WINSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## Health Report for 1952.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Winsford Urban District Council.*

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the following statement of essential matters affecting the Public Health of the Town during the year 1952.

### Section A.— Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,094 acres.
Population—Registrar-General's latest estimate of population (mid 1952)	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,820
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1952)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,907
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£58,561
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£225 6s. 6d.

The following extracts from vital statistics of the year relate to net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers by the Registrar-General:—

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births—Legitimate	199	106	93	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 16.38.
Illegitimate	11	5	6	
:				
Still Births—Legitimate	3	1	2	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) 14.08
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Deaths	140	73	67	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 10.92. After ad- justment by the Comparability Fac- tor, 11.13.

*Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—*

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	19.04
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			20.10
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			Nil.
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	23
Deaths from Poliomyelitis (all ages)	...	...	1
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	Nil.
Deaths from Diphtheria (all ages)	...	...	Nil.

The following table compares the main statistics for 1952 with the years 1941-1951 :—

Year	Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Death Rate	No. of Deaths from Cancer	No. of Deaths from Tuberculosis
1941	11,580	15.37	11.39	48.38	17	5
1942	11,230	18.78	13.53	37.91	17	5
1943	10,850	16.95	13.82	21.73	20	5
1944	10,760	17.47	14.21	79.78	16	9
1945	10,720	16.13	14.64	17.34	16	6
1946	11,300	20.00	11.50	22.12	10	6
1947	11,640	22.85	14.26	33.83	22	6
1948	12,050	19.33	13.19	21.45	23	5
1949	12,100	18.92	12.81	34.93	19	3
1950	12,490	17.22	12.58	27.90	19	3
1951	12,770	16.91	12.92	18.51	21	2
1952	12,820	16.38	10.92	19.04	23	6

**Causes of Death—1952**

(Taken from the Registrar-General's Tables).

	M	F	Total.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	1	4
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	1	1	2
3. Syphillitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	1	1



### Causes of Death, 1952—continued.

(Taken from the Registrar-General's Tables).

	M	F	Total.
8. Measles ... ..	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	6	2	8
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	—	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	—	—
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	6	10
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	—	—	—
16. Diabetes ... ..	—	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	15	22
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	14	6	20
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	—	—
20. Other heart disease ... ..	14	15	29
21. Other circulatory disease ... ..	1	1	2
22. Influenza ... ..	1	—	1
23. Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—
24. Bronchitis ... ..	4	1	5
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	—	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	—	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	—	—	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	11	10	21
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	2	—	2
34. All other accidents ... ..	1	—	1
35. Suicide ... ..	1	1	2
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>140</b>

## Section B—General Provisions of Health Services for the Area.

### (A) Provided by the District Council.

#### (1) *Staff*

W. S. SLATER, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. Medical Officer of Health	(Services shared by the other three Mid-Cheshire Districts, the County Council and the N. & M.-C. H.M.C.).
Clerical Staff, 1 Person (whole time)	Services shared with other 3 Districts.
W. W. White, M.S.I.A. C.R.S.I., Chief Sanitary Inspector and Meat Inspector	(Winsford Urban District Council only).
T. H. Rogerson, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I. Additional Sanitary Inspector.	—ditto—
Miss H. Oakes, Cert. Shorthand-Typist.	—ditto—

#### (2) *Laboratory Facilities.*

The Public Health Laboratory Services in Manchester, which are provided free of charge to the Winsford Urban District Council, proved adequate during the year. In addition, this Service has co-operated in the transport of the samples twice monthly from this area.

#### (3) *Environmental Services.*

Details of the other Services, e.g., Sanitary and Housing Inspections, Food Examinations, etc., etc., provided by the Winsford Urban District Council, are recorded later in this report.

### (B) Isolation Hospital Services

Davenham Isolation Hospital, under the North and Mid-Cheshire Hospital Management Committee, provided hospital treatment for the area's infectious cases and during the year admitted 26 patients from the Winsford Urban District.

### (C) Provided by the County Council

The Cheshire County Council have officers discharging duties in the urban area under the following Services:—School Medical, Maternity and Child Welfare, Tuberculosis, School Dental, Health Visiting, Weights and Measures Inspection, Specialist Services, e.g., Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Home and Domiciliary Midwifery Services, etc., etc.

**(D) Provided by the Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee  
(under the auspices of the County Council).**

The Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee provided the following Services :—

*(a) Vaccination and Immunisation Schemes.*

The work done during the year 1952 in Winsford Urban District is detailed as follows :—

**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.**

No. of children who have completed treatment during 1952	... ..	157
In addition, 228 booster injections were given.		

The percentage of children under the age of five years known to have received this protective treatment is	... ..	33%
--	--------	-----

**VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.**

No. of persons who are known to have been vaccinated during 1952	... ..	30
--	--------	----

**IMMUNISATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH.**

No of children who have been treated during 1952	... ..	18
--	--------	----

As to the immunisation against whooping cough, this has not been unduly pushed as its efficiency though likely to be good has not yet been fully substantiated. It seems likely that in the near future there will be introduced on the market a combined prophylactic which will safeguard children from both whooping cough and diphtheria. When this has been fully proved to be both safe and effective, I feel sure that the Mid-Cheshire Divisional Health Committee will make it available for use by the local doctors. This will enable the course of treatment against both diseases to be reduced from five injections as at present to three.

The protective treatments against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Smallpox remain a free service under the National Health Service Act.

*(b) Sitting Case Car and Ambulance Service.*

The service provided in the area, primarily for Mid-Cheshire, has dealt with the Winsford Urban cases expeditiously and without serious complaint throughout the year.



(c) *Prevention of Illness—Care and After-Care.*

A variety of medical equipment and comforts were provided for the use of the sick in a number of homes during the year.

(d) *Domestic Help Service.*

Domestic Helps have been provided during 1952 in 27 Households in the Winsford Urban District. The kind of cases assisted included confinement, old age, and tuberculosis, etc.

**(E) Family Planning.**

During the year the County Council made available premises in the town at which married women from Winsford and adjoining districts attend for specialist's advice on family planning. This clinic meets twice monthly on Tuesdays at 9-30 a.m. at the Winsford Child Welfare Centre. It is controlled locally by an active team of lady volunteers, working under the general guidance of the Family Planning Association. The Centre during its short course of existence has so far been particularly well attended.

## **Section C—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

### **Water Supply**

The water supply generally is furnished in bulk and detail by the Mid and South-East Cheshire Water Board. This supply during 1952 has been satisfactory, both as regards quality and quantity, as the bacteriological reports on 28 samples amply show.

In addition, nine samples of well water from three farms and three cottages, not connected to a mains supply, were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. These premises are all supplied by shallow wells fed by subsoil water or land springs. At two of the farms in question the bacteriological standard of the samples did not compare favourably with those of the third farm with a similar water supply.

The County Milk advisory Officer of the Cheshire Executive Committee was contacted regarding the two farms with unsatisfactory water supplies, but their concern is chiefly with the suitability of the water supply for dairy purposes and apparently the samples had satisfied their tests.

The provision of a mains supply to these two farms is now under consideration.

## Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

I am indebted to Mr. P. Heaton, the Surveyor and Engineer of the Council, for the following statement :—

“As reported in last year’s report the reconstruction of the main sewage disposal works on either side of the flashes is still in progress. The work on the Over side is completed and functioning very satisfactorily and that on the Wharton side is almost complete. The storm bed still remains to be finished.

Attempts at beautification of these main sewage works by the planting of trees, laying out of paths, etc., has so far had successful results and will be continued.

The work to the Wharton sewage works includes the enlargement of the works to provide for the new Greville Estate housing development scheme.

New sewage works are required for Whitegate Village, but considerable delay has been experienced in dealing with the Ministry at Whitehall. On account of this delay a temporary scheme of disposal has been provided consisting of septic tank and clinker filter, which will of course be removed and the ground restored when the scheme of sewerage as submitted to the Ministry is approved and completed.

Sewerage scheme improvements are still required in the following areas :—

- (1) *Swanlow South*.—This is a hardy annual, the position being that the Council have a scheme fully prepared and ready for carrying out if and when the Ministry will give sanction to loan. In various approaches to the Ministry in this connection the Council have so far been unsuccessful.
- (2) *Little Lane*. Here again an unsatisfactory out-fall to an existing small sewerage system presents a similar problem to that in Swanlow South. The capital cost of providing the proper out-fall works being again the obstacle to the Ministry.

Elsewhere the other sewerage works of the Council are functioning satisfactorily except at Clive. These are badly overworked and they are taking much more flow than they were designed for. Extension is not possible on the existing site and in my opinion they should be abolished entirely and the sewage taken into the existing Wharton Sewerage works of the Council. This would involve a new main sewer to connect the existing sewer in Middlewich Road with the Council’s sewer in Rilshaw Lane, but here again the granting of loan sanction is the obstacle.



A sewerage re-construction scheme has been sanctioned by the Ministry for Ledward Street. This sewer has for years been overloaded and the construction of the new Greville Estate accentuates the position. It is, therefore, proposed to substitute the existing sewer by a new main sewer to be laid along Coronation Row and Ledward Street and to terminate at Wharton Schools, the estimated cost of which being £3,500.

The completion of this scheme will remove the pollution from the Wharton brook by ensuring that the storm overflow will only come into action during storm periods."

### Closet Conversion.

A closet conversion scheme under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector's department has made slow but steady progress. The number of conversions which can be carried out without appreciable extension of sewers, etc., is now becoming small. Now that the bulk of the readily convertible premises has been dealt with, the future of the conversion scheme is limited unless the availability of sewerage facilities is extended

The Chief Sanitary Inspector's report on Closet Conversion reads as follows :—

"There are 233 premises in the Winsford Urban District which are not yet converted to the water carriage system. The majority of these are situated in out-lying areas where sewerage facilities are not readily available or at levels where it is difficult to connect to the Town's sewerage system.

Since January, 1949, a total of 88 pail and privy closets have been converted, either directly by owners or by the Council in default. This action by the Council was only necessary in two instances.

The following list of premises in the various categories summarizes the present position :—

*Category I.*—7 premises with a sufficient water supply laid on and already connected to the Council's sewers which discharge to the sewage works :—

#### *Location of Properties.*

Weaver Street	...	...	...	1
Clough Row	...	...	...	5
Middlewich Road	...	...	...	1

REMARKS.—Of these 7 properties, 6 are likely to be converted shortly. In connection with the one in Middlewich Road, the Council's instructions are awaited regarding the possible fitness of the house for habitation.

*Category II.*—9 premises with a sufficient water supply laid on but no drainage to the Council's sewer, although there is one within a reasonable distance :—

*Location of Properties.*

Goods Yard (Wharton)	...	...	3
Grange Lane	...	...	2
Deakins Road	...	...	2
Rilshaw Lane	...	...	2

When formal notices are served a sewer connection should be carried to the property by the Council, unless it is known that one already exists.

Section 36 of the Public Health Act, 1936, empowers the Local Authority to undertake the making of such communications with public sewers.

REMARKS.—At the time of writing the 2 properties in Grange Lane have been converted.

*Category III.*—12 premises which a sufficient water supply laid on and not situated at a suitable level for connection to a Council sewer, but within a reasonable distance from an adequate sewer :—

*Location of Properties.*

Grange Lane	...	...	2
Wharton Road	...	...	6
Moors Lane	...	...	4

The Council cannot enforce conversion of these properties if the existing public sewers are of an impracticable level for connection to be made to drainage of the properties concerned.

REMARKS.—There does not appear to be any chance of the conversion of these properties. At the time of writing, however, the two properties in Grange Lane mentioned above, have since been provided with adequate facilities and so conversion appears imminent.

*Category IV.*—66 premises with a sufficient water supply laid on and already connected to public sewers, which discharge into a river, pool, stream or ditch, and not into the sewage works—

*Location of Properties.*

Church Street	...	...	1	Swanlow Lane	...	...	13
Hill Street	...	...	9	Station Road	...	...	7
Littler Lane	...	...	15	Winsford Hill	...	...	12
Little Fold	...	...	5	Wharton Road	...	...	1
Market Place	...	...	2	Weaver Street	...	...	1



The pollution of rivers is now controlled by River Boards, working under the provision of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951. This new legislation came into force on 1st October last, and repeals the old Rivers Pollution Prevention Act of 1876.

REMARKS.—These 66 properties could all be converted, if only the sewage arising therefrom could receive adequate treatment. They are already connected to a Council's sewer, which cannot be classed as adequate in view of the fact that no satisfactory sewage treatment is available, and also in regard to the River (Prevention of Pollution) Act, 1951, mentioned above.

*Category V.*—136 premises which have a sufficient water supply laid on but have no Council sewer within a reasonable distance of the properties:—

*Location of Properties.*

Adamshaw Fields	...	1	Grange Hill	...	...	4	
Bradford Wood & Bradford Mill	...	20	Grange Works and Wades Crossing	...	...	3	
Cappers Wood <sup>†</sup>	...	...	6	Mill Lane	...	...	3
Deakins Road	...	...	15	Rilshaw Lane	...	...	1
Darnhall (including School)	...	...	5	Swanlow Lane	...	...	13
Deakins Dockyard	...	3	Shaws Lane	...	...	10	
Done Fields	...	...	9	Stock Hill	...	...	4
Dooley's Hill	...	...	7	Whitegate	...	...	13
Foxwist Green	...	...	7	Willow Bank	...	...	6
				Welsh Lane	...	...	6

Adequate drainage of these premises which is necessary to effect conversion, cannot be enforced by the Council if there is no sewer within 100 ft. of the site of the buildings. This particular category embraces the majority of premises situated in out-lying areas.

REMARKS.—Darnhall Schools, the Old Star area and Smithy Bank, are included in this category and are properties with which the Council is already familiar.

*Category VI.*—4 premises without sufficient water supply and sewerage facilities within a reasonable distance of the properties:—

*Location of Properties.*

Bark House Cottages	...	2	Church House Farm	...	1
Catsclough Crossing	...	1			

## SUMMARY.

7 premises scheduled under Category I	
9 premises scheduled under Category II	
12 premises scheduled under Category III	
66 premises scheduled under Category IV	
136 premises scheduled under Category V	
4 premises scheduled under Category VI	
<i>Total</i>	<i>- - 234 Premises.</i>

The progress of the work of converting pail and privy closets during the year can be summarised as follows :—

i. Total number of pails and privies requiring conversion at the commencement of the year	...	251
ii. Total number of Statutory Notices served during the year	... ..	18
iii. Total number of conversions completed during the year	... ..	25
iv. Total number of conversions for which Statutory Notices have been served during the year, and upon which work was commenced or is expected to commence shortly	... ..	Nil.
v. Total number of pails and privies requiring conversion at the close of the year	... ..	226''

**Licensed Camping Sites.**

Five licensed camping sites are still in existence. The main one, namely Stoneleys, sited on the lower flash, has been considerably modified by the reduction of the number of occupants.

Ninety-eight inspections of individual dwellings and sites were made and six informal notices were served. A survey of one of the larger sites on the banks of the River Weaver was undertaken during the year, this included detailed information on accommodation and sanitary facilities of every individual dwelling and the general sanitary requirements of the site as a whole. As a result of this survey one dwelling was represented as unfit and in need of condemnation, and arrangements were made for the site owner to provide additional refuse disposal facilities and to instal a new small sewage treatment plant to serve the site. Various other improvements are in hand which should alleviate many of the troubles previously experienced.

### **Canal Boats.**

No canal boats are now registered with the Council.

Three inspections have been made in regard to minor repairs which were remedied forthwith.

### **Destruction of Rats and Mice.**

This service is administered through the Council Surveyor's Department, which employs one man full time on this work.

### **Common Lodging Houses.**

No common lodging houses are in existence in the district.

### **River Pollution.**

There is no measurable pollution of the river in Winsford from the town's sewage works. The River Weaver flowing through the town is polluted beyond fish holding capacity up to the upper flash ABOVE the town, but the most heavily stocked stretch of the Weaver in the whole of its length is immediately BELOW Winsford down to Hartford, beyond this to the sea there is little or no fish life.

### **Swimming Baths.**

The Council's open air swimming baths have been maintained in a good condition. Bacteriological analyses of the bath water whenever taken have been satisfactory—a sterile water invariably showing conventional residual chlorine.

### **Schools in the Area.**

There are nine schools, including the Verdin Grammar School. Seven of these have satisfactory closet accommodation, whilst the remaining two (Darnhall and Whitegate) have pails, as no adequate sewerage facilities are available. Proposed housing developments in Whitegate should provide proper sewage for the school in that locality, and any sewerage scheme for the Swanlow South area would definitely incorporate the Darnhall School premises. All schools are supplied with a satisfactory mains water supply.

### **The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.**

The purpose of this Act which came into force on 1st November, 1951, is to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles and other articles which are stuffed or lined.

Three premises in the town which are used primarily for the remaking and reconditioning of furniture are registered by the Council under the Act.



### Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

#### *Statement of Inspections Made and Notices Issued.*

(Based upon a statement made by the Sanitary Inspectors)

Nature of Inspections made	Number	Number of Notices Served		Results of Service of Notices			
		Statutory	Informal	Notice complied with	Remaining in hand	Prosecutions Instituted	Pending
1. Dwelling Houses (General Inspections) ..	447	3	82	74	8	—	—
2. Tents, Vans, Sheds ..	98	—	6	6	—	—	—
3. Privy Middens, Earth Closets, Peat Pails, Cesspool Privies ..	100	18	17	35	—	—	—
4. Cesspools .. ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. House Drainage ..	105	5	10	14	1	—	—
6. Ditches, Water Courses etc	25	—	2	1	1	—	—
7. Offensive Accumulations	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Keeping of Animals ..	3	—	1	1	—	—	—
9. Offensive Trades ..	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Slaughter Houses (Public)	1,084	—	9	—	—	—	—
(Public)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other places where food is produced or sold ..	292	—	29	27	2	—	—
11. Dairies .. ..	46	—	13	12	1	—	—
Ice Cream Premises ..	29	—	10	9	1	—	—
12. Factories with Mechanical Power .. ..	43	—	2	2	—	—	—
Factories without Mechanical Power ..	23	—	4	4	—	—	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of Building) .. ..	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Outworkers' Premises ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
13. Ashbins .. ..	31	—	12	12	—	—	—
14. Butchers' Shops ..	18	—	—	—	—	—	—
15. Overcrowding .. ..	25	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Places of Amusement ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
17. Verminous Premises ..	20	—	12	12	—	—	—
18. Water Closets .. ..	8	—	8	8	—	—	—
19. Fried Fish Shops ..	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
20. Water Supply .. ..	20	—	5	5	—	—	—
21. Shops .. ..	35	—	—	—	—	—	—
22. Miscellaneous .. ..	23	—	—	—	—	—	—
23. River Boats .. ..	3	—	3	—	—	—	—
24. Infectious Disease ..	34	—	14	14	—	—	—
25. Interviews .. ..	445	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	3,002	26	239	236	14	—	—



## Factories Acts, 1937 & 1948.

### *Part I of the Act.*

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors):—

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories without Mechanical Power	14	23	4	—
Factories with Mechanical Power ..	55	43	2	—
Other Premises .. .. .	5	13	—	—
Totals ..	74	79	6	—

2.—Cases in which defects were found:—

Particulars	Number of Defects			Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness .. ..	4	4	—	—
Overcrowding .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation .. ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ..	3	3	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:—				
(a) Insufficient .. .. .	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	1	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—
Other Offences .. .. .	1	1	—	—
Totals ..	9	8	1	—

## Section D – Housing

During the year 77 permanent houses were erected. This brings the total of post-war dwellings erected to 573 permanent and 50 temporary houses. These are sited as follows:—

<i>Site</i>	<i>Houses Constructed.</i>	
	<i>Pre-War</i>	<i>Post-War</i>
Grange Lane and Meadow Bank ... ..	56	—
Park Avenue ... ..	40	—
Gladstone Street, Woodford Lane, and Moss Bank ... ..	50	—
Crook Lane ... ..	12	—
Seaton Street, Hewitt Drive, and Beckett Avenue ... ..	36	—
Siddorn Street, Overway, Coronation Avenue, etc. ... ..	50	—
Kingsway, Hill Street, Massey Avenue and Prefabricated Bungalows ... ..	42	52
Dene Site ... ..	—	526
Greville Drive and Lodge Drive ... ..	—	20
Greville Estate ... ..	—	24
Special Bungalow for Paraplegic Ex-Service Man ... ..	—	1

Eleven permanent houses have been built privately during the year under review and a total of 52 since the end of the war, as compared with 573 permanent ones built by the Council.

The Dene Estate is complete except for a few shops and the building on about 5 private plots.

The Greville Estate is well in hand providing for approximately 184 houses, together with shops, garages, etc. Here again an area has been allocated for the building by private persons who desire to purchase plots and build their own dwellings.

All the services are laid on the scheme and at the end of the year 22 houses had been completed and 58 were in course of construction.

The Whitegate Estate is a scheme where the Council have purchased approximately 10 acres of land and laid it out with streets and sewers and all services and are selling the plots to private persons for the building of houses. Almost all the plots have been sold and a number of houses are in course of construction.

The table below outlines the main housing activities of the Council in administering the Housing and Public Health Acts :—

I.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	... ..	240
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	... ..	447
(2)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation		3
(3)		Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	86

II.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—

	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	74
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III.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 12 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	... ..	Nil.
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—		
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	26
	Number of Dwelling Houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices	... ..	26
	(a) By Owners	... ..	23
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	... ..	3
(c)	Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936	... ..	2



## Section E—Inspection and Supervision of Food

### (a) Milk Supply.

One distributor was registered and issued with special designation licences during the year. This man was a dairy farmer who had his bulk milk collected daily from the farm and heat-treated at a pasteurisation plant in an adjoining district. The milk was then returned bottled and ready for retail delivery. All bottle washing was carried out at the pasteurisation plant.

There are now seven local milk distributors, and these can be classified as follows :

Retail trade from local dairies	...	...	...	...	5
Retail trade of bottled pasteurised milk from motor vehicles	...	...	...	...	1
Retail trade of bottled pasteurised milk from shop premises					1

The licences held by these distributors under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949 and 1950, are as follows :—

Licence to use the Special Designation "Tuberculin-Tested"	...	...	...	...	2
Licence to use the Special Designation "Tuberculin-Tested" (Pasteurised)	...	...	...	...	4
Licence to use the Special Designation "Pasteurised"					4
Licence to use the Special Designation "Accredited"					1

No supplementary licences are now held by any distributors trading in the district.

Numerous visits have been made to these dairies during the year, and dairymen have been advised on various technical matters associated with retail dairying. These traders are also kept informed of new legislation affecting the distributive side of the trade whenever it is issued by the appropriate Ministries.

Twenty samples of milk retailed in the district by local distributors were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for cleanliness tests, and also in the case of pasteurised milk for tests on the efficiency of the heat treatment.

The results of these samples are as follows :—

#### METHYLENE BLUE TEST FOR CLEANLINESS.

Grade	Satisfactory Unsatisfactory.	
Ungraded Raw Milk	...	...
Tuberculin Tested Raw Milk	...	...
Accredited	...	...



## PHOSPHATE TEST FOR HEAT TREATMENT.

<i>Grade</i>				<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
Pasteurised	...	...	...	3	—

Sixteen of the samples of raw milk were also tested by animal inoculation for the presence of tubercle bacilli, as follows :

## ANIMAL INOCULATION.

<i>Grade</i>				<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory.</i>
Ungraded Raw Milk	...	...	...	6	—
Tuberculin Tested Raw Milk	...	...	...	7	—
Accredited	...	...	...	3	—

The two unsatisfactory samples of raw milk were followed up at the dairy concerned. The County Milk Production Officer was informed so that the producer could be visited and if necessary advised. As a result of this action, later samples from both dairy and farm proved satisfactory.

An unusual problem, also associated with milk supply, confronted the Sanitary Officers when approached by a local milk producer for advice concerning the contamination of a cattle watering trough with a large and obnoxious accumulation of slimy, gelatinous material. This trough, to which the cattle had access, was fed by a land spring, and the farmer was naturally anxious as to the effect such contaminated water might have on the production of milk.

Samples of water from both land spring and trough were taken and sent to Manchester for the observations of the Public Health Laboratory. Their reports quoted verbatim are as follows :

In the trough :—“The gelatinous material consisted of algal filaments and decaying vegetable matter.”

Regarding the land spring :—“This supply is heavily polluted by both faecal and non-faecal coliform organisms. Provided that the cows are adequately washed down before milking, their drinking and perhaps standing in this water is not likely to reduce the keeping quality of the milk. Such supplies as this nearly always contain large numbers of coliform organisms, this sample however contained a considerable quantity of algal and decaying vegetable matter as well. It would be desirable to minimise this as much as possible.

After receiving these reports further investigation revealed the probable source of the trouble. A silage pit had been sunk in the vicinity of the land spring and it was thought that whilst the contents were in the process of fermentation, liquid draining from the silage, heavily charged with vegetable matter, had percolated through to the spring with the resultant contamination. Once the fermentation of the silage ceased, so did the influx of gelatinous material in the watering trough.

## (b) Ice Cream.

Only one new application for the sale of ice cream was received during the year and this was for the retail sale of a wrapped product.

There are now 46 premises registered for the manufacture or sale of ice cream, but some of these have discontinued counter sales owing to reduced annual turnover resulting from an increased number of competitive retailers within the same vicinity.

Manufacture is still carried out at two premises only—at one by the heat treatment process and at the other by the “cold-mix” method. It is worthy of note that this “cold-mix” producer has consistently attained a Grade I standard since he commenced production seven years ago in 1946.

Iced Lollies have become popular articles of consumption amongst the younger generation because they are usually palatable and refreshing. The composition of proprietary brands appears to resemble that of water ices, being a frozen mixture of diluted fruit juice and sugar with the addition of a small amount of stabiliser, formerly egg white, but latterly usually gelatine or sodium alginate. Regarding the product manufactured and offered for sale by some of the smaller shopkeepers, the nutritive value of some of these lollies is open to doubt, as the composition in many cases is often just a solution of cordial frozen by the retailer in his ice cream cabinet.

Iced lollies are not subject to the legislation which covers ice cream; they are specifically excluded (but by implication classed with water ices) from the provisions of the Food Standards (Ice Cream) Order, 1951, and do not come within the provisions of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947-52. The Ice Cream Alliance has, in fact, made representations to the Ministry of Food that registration should be obligatory for all premises used for the manufacture or sale of ice lollies, and that a statutory standard of composition should be laid down. The reputable makers of lollies have already voluntarily adopted hygienic precautions similar to those in the ice cream trade, including heat treatment of the mix, and such practices are to be commended.

Most of the ice cream retailed in the district is wrapped or in tubs, and in those few instances where it is sold loose the vendors have been advised on methods of sterilizing servers and utensils. Some of the better known brands are bacteriologically controlled throughout the entire manufacturing process, and samples when taken by the Sanitary Officers never fail to attain the highest grade.



Many routine inspections and advisory visits continue to be made, and past efforts and perseverance in attempting to achieve a high standard of hygiene in the trade are now being rewarded. Generally speaking, it can be said that the public is now offered a good, clean and wholesome commodity when buying ice cream.

Regular samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination by the Methylene Blue Test, and the results of these tests are tabulated below. Comparison with the year 1947 illustrates the progress in the standard of hygiene made over a five-year period.

Provisional Grading	No. of Samples	Percentage 1952	Percentage 1947
1	28	90.32 %	50.00 %
2	2	6.45 %	8.23 %
3	—	—	33.34 %
4	1	3.23 %	8.33 %

### (c) Food Premises.

The routine inspection of food premises has continued throughout the year. At Cafes visited the staff were given on-the-spot advice on suitable hygienic practices desirable in establishments which provide catering facilities for the public. Following the inspection the proprietors were sent written suggestions for the improvement of individual premises. This method of approach has so far been well received and it is to be extended to other establishments of a similar nature.

All types of food shops were visited and the traders were issued with display cards requesting the exclusion of dogs from the premises. All traders were very co-operative in this matter.

Many industrial canteens were improved on the advice of the Sanitary Officers following the detailed survey made during the previous year.

Ninety-three food premises in the town are registered under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the preparation, manufacture or sale of food and these premises are classified as follows :—

Registered premises for the sale of prepared meats, etc	...	32
Registered premises for the sale of fried fish	... ..	14
Registered premises for the process of tripe dressing (Offensive trade)	... ..	1
Registered premises for the manufacture or sale of ice cream		46

(d) Meat.

The Council's meat inspectors under this heading report, as follows :—

“Meat inspection continues to be one of the important public health duties performed by the Council's Sanitary Officers, and the year under review has seen a very considerable increase in the number of animals slaughtered for food at the two establishments within the district, the activities of which can best be reported upon separately, as follows :—

MINISTRY OF FOOD CENTRAL ABATTOIR AND MEAT DEPOT,  
WEAVER STREET.

The seasonal decline in the slaughter of home-bred livestock became noticeable during the first month of the year, and many of the cattle which were received at that period were poor and only of manufacturing quality and showing a higher incidence of disease than is normally recorded. Frozen beef and mutton was therefore allocated to supplement the shortage of English ration meat.

Outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease at various localities in the County became a serious problem during April and May, and interfered with supplies of fresh meat normally received in the town. During this period only a small proportion of the usual beef and mutton on the hoof was slaughtered at these premises, and the ration had to be augmented by slaughtering larger numbers of calves and pigs, and by the allocation of frozen beef and mutton. Strict observation was kept on all livestock to be slaughtered but no evidence of the disease was found in any animal.

In contrast to the previous two months with the shortage of usual fresh meat supplies, the next few weeks saw an exceptional increase in the number of animals slaughtered, resulting in an abundance of fresh beef and other meat. This was the outcome of the emergency caused by outbreaks of the disease at farms within close proximity to the town. The auction at Beeston was closed and considerable numbers of animals were diverted to the Winsford Abattoir for the purposes of grading, and having once entered had to be slaughtered on these premises. Slaughtering was carried on until the early hours of the morning on most days of the week, the bulk of the dressed meat and edible offal being allocated to towns within the Liverpool and Manchester areas.

Restrictions on the movement and slaughtering of livestock caused by the emergency were withdrawn during August, grading was reintroduced at Beeston Auction and supplies of livestock for slaughter at the abattoir again resumed reasonable proportions. The peak period for the slaughter of home-produced cattle then commenced and continued until the end of November.



Earlier that month it was stated by the Minister of Food that the Government had no intention of continuing indefinitely the present arrangements under which the Ministry of Food controls and operates the slaughterhouses used for preparing our home-produced meat. This control must go on while meat rationing is necessary, but it is the intention that local authorities and private interests should take over the responsibilities as soon as circumstances permit. He said, however, that it was essential that there should be some central regulation to ensure that buildings in which slaughtering is carried on meet all the requirements of hygiene, meat inspection and humane slaughter, and that they should be so sited so as to make it possible to achieve these objectives with reasonable economy, and also to ensure the maximum economies in the total cost of transport of both livestock and meat.

A return to the pre-war system of slaughtering in thousands of small premises would not do that, so the Government propose to continue the policy of moderate concentration, that is concentration into some 300 or 400 slaughterhouses throughout the country.

In order to work towards a system of this sort, for which amending legislation may be necessary, a National siting plan will be drawn up in co-operation with local authorities, producers butchers and professional bodies concerned in these matters.

The Ministry has already made various improvements at the local abattoir during the past year. These include the provision of new electrical stunning and sawing equipment and the concreting of the greater part of the yard which will now allow for adequate drainage and proper cleansing, necessities of hygiene which could not be met satisfactorily before. Structural extensions are also contemplated, so one can visualize that the existing premises may continue to provide central slaughtering facilities for the town, if not for the adjacent authorities, when the new system comes into operation.

This view was not held by one of the nearby authorities which was of the opinion that the existing abattoir at Weaver Street was totally inadequate, and that the cost of enlarging, improving and adapting these premises to meet modern requirements of hygiene and the potential user would more than equal the cost of the erection of a new modern building in a more suitable and central position. They requested the support of the Winsford Council in representations to the Ministry of Food regarding the provision of a public slaughterhouse to serve the Mid-Cheshire area, but this support was not given as the Council considered that the present slaughterhouse is capable of dealing adequately with the requirements of Mid-Cheshire, particularly if structural alterations previously referred to are carried out.

## C.W.S. BACON FACTORY, BOSTOCK ROAD.

I am indebted to the Manager of the C.W.S. Bacon Factory for the following information on his factory's activities during 1952 :—

“During the year under review the slaughtering of pigs reached the highest level yet recorded for this factory, due in no small measure to the widespread incidence of Foot and Mouth disease during the earlier months of the year. The number of pigs slaughtered during the year was 123,000, giving a weekly average of 2,365, but during the emergency caused by this disease the weekly kill often exceeded 3,000.

There has been a complementary expansion in the output of all ancillary trades, and, in addition, the processing of cooked hams was commenced around October of this year.

Owing to changes in the maximum “into cure” carcase weights the output of pork carcasses has been materially increased and as these are distributed over very wide areas they are subjected to careful examination by the Meat Inspectors.

The activities of the Hatchery at this factory have expanded, and the work is now largely concentrated on the production of commercial and pedigree Day Old Chicks, which under our sales organisation go as far afield as North and Mid-Wales, the Midland Areas, and the Southern Counties. Considerable numbers are, of course, disposed of locally.”

Although the percentage of porcine pulmonary infections such as pleurisy and pneumonia was not considerably reduced during the year, there was nevertheless a noticeable general decline in the incidence of disease in pigs inspected here during the latter part of the year. It is difficult to give decided views on this, but the improvement seems to be due to better husbandry on the part of the breeders in an endeavour to attain the premium grade for bacon production.

The following figures give the average monthly percentage of whole carcasses, part carcasses and offal condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

Whole carcasses	...	...	...	0.13%
Part carcasses	...	...	...	0.04%
Plucks	...	...	...	3.64%
Entrails	...	...	...	2.83%
Heads	...	...	...	3.30%
Livers	...	...	...	0.73%
Lungs	...	...	...	0.41%
Kidneys	...	...	...	0.40%
Leafs	...	...	...	0.05%



The percentage of whole carcasses condemned remains low as did that of the previous year. This favourable figure was achieved by salvaging all damaged but otherwise sound pigs and retaining them in the factory for use under supervision as manufacturing meat; such pigs could not be utilised for bacon production. This practice has resulted in the saving of a very large amount of meat for manufacturing purposes.

The Ministry of Food take advantage of the factory's modern methods of production to dispose of consignments of various meats and meat products which require manufacturing under supervision. Two such consignments of canned veal loaf were received during the early part of the year. This appeared to be an old but otherwise sound stock, and upon inspection of 6,000 tins, only 1.5% had to be condemned as unsound. This meat is used in proportion for the manufacture of meat pies and cooked meats, etc.

In addition, many tons of Argentinean frozen mutton suspected of infection with Caseous lymphadenitis was sorted and inspected prior to being manufactured into small goods. Nineteen sides, weight 134 lb., showing lesions of the disease were condemned as unfit. This disease is not transmissible to man.

A considerable quantity of bacon was also sent to the factory for the purpose of inspection and salvage. On inspection the whole amount, approximately 10,000 lb. was found to be in an advanced stage of general decomposition and had to be condemned.

### **Diseases of Animals Acts.**

15 carcasses were examined in connection with the operation of the Tuberculosis Order, 1938. The entire carcasses and organs of nine were condemned, the remaining six were passed less any part carcase and offal which was surrendered.

It is interesting to note that the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has now specified certain areas as free from tuberculosis where only attested herds may be kept. An extension of this policy may eventually lead to the complete eradication of bovine tuberculosis, a worthwhile accomplishment which has already been achieved by one continental country.

During the year, 49 pigs and 1 cow were notified as suspected cases of Anthrax under the provisions of the Anthrax Order, 1938. One of these pigs from the Bacon Factory was confirmed as positive, the carcase being destroyed by burning and the infected area disinfected.

179 Swine Fever contacts were sent to the C.W.S. Bacon Factory for slaughter under the provisions of the Swine Fever Order, 1938. One of these pigs was condemned.



### **Cysticercus bovis.**

63 cases of *Cysticercus bovis* infection, the cystic stage of the human tapeworm *Taenia saginata*, were discovered during routine meat inspection at the local Ministry of Food Abattoir. This shows a reduction of 33% on last year's figures, and it is hoped that this decline in incidence will continue.

The cysts in varying stages of viability and degeneration were found in eight different anatomical regions and in two cases the infection was generalised, the cysts being distributed throughout the carcass musculature and too numerous to count. Carcasses with minor infections are consigned to cold storage for the prescribed period of 21 days at 18°F., and when this treatment has terminated they are then re-allocated for manufacturing purposes. The generalised cases are condemned.

### **Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.**

The general provisions of this Act were observed at both local slaughtering establishments where all animals are stunned before slaughter either by electro-lethal tongs or by the captive bolt pistol, and new and improved electrical equipment of this nature for the stunning of sheep and calves was provided at the abattoir during the year.

All animals kept over twenty-four hours are fed and watered. This provision is particularly essential during hot weather when the animal soon become distressed, with a resultant loss of quality in the dressed carcass meat.

The only known instance of cruelty occurred when a wagoner had to be cautioned at the abattoir for maltreatment of casualty calves during unloading.

Twenty-one slaughtermen's licences were renewed and two new licences were issued during the year.

### **Meat Regulations, 1924.**

The present type of vehicle in use for the transport of meat from abattoir to butchers shops is still unsatisfactory, but every effort is made to ensure that clean floor wrappers are provided daily. Protective wrappings for individual carcasses are only provided when meat is being transported from one Depot to another.

Discussions have been held with representatives of the Wholesale Meat Supply Association and the British Road Services concerning co-operation in general matters affecting the hygienic transport of meat.

The following, based upon a statement by the Meat Inspector, Mr. White, is a summary of the carcasses inspected and condemned during the year :—

### Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed .. .. .	1,330	1,370	2,993	11,688	124,506
Number inspected .. .. .	1,330	1,370	2,993	11,688	124,506
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis:—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	2	22	63	39	59
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	144	272	69	1,017	4,255
Percentage of the number in- spected, affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ..	10.97%	21.46%	4.40%	9.03%	3.47%
<i>Tuberculosis Only:—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	4	21	7	—	50
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	144	461	—	—	8,364
Percentage of the number in- spected, affected with Tuber- culosis .. .. .	11.12%	35.18%	0.23%	—	6.75%

### (e) Other Foods.

Under the "Unsound Food Provision," the undermentioned articles of food were found to be unfit for consumption and condemned :—

<i>Article of Food.</i>	<i>Weight.</i>		<i>Cause of Condemnation.</i>
	<i>lb.</i>	<i>oz.</i>	
380 tins assorted meat	570	3	Damage & Decomposition.
16 tins assorted fish	9	11½	Damage & Decomposition.
4 tins assorted soup	3	14	Damage & Decomposition.
5 tins chicken ...	2	13	Damage & Decomposition.
254 tins assort. vegetables	247	2¾	Fermentation & Moulds.
31 tins assorted milk	29	9½	Fermentation & Moulds.
59 tins assorted jam	59	8½	Fermentation & Moulds.
4 bottles sauce ...	5	2	Fermentation & Moulds.
2 bottles vinegar ...	3	4	Fermentation & Moulds.
5 boxes chocolates ...	1	4	Fermentation & Moulds.
1 tin coffee ... ..		4	Fermentation & Moulds.
89 tins assorted fruits	132	13½	Damage & Hydrogen Swells
6 tins assorted fruit juice	7	8	Damage & Hydrogen Swells
2 packets suet ...	1	0	Rancidity

**(e) Other Foods—continued.**

<i>Article of Food.</i>	<i>Weight.</i>		<i>Cause of Condemnation.</i>
	<i>lb.</i>	<i>oz.</i>	
37 packets table dessert	4	10	Mite Infestation.
12 packets baking powder	4	6	Mite Infestation.
Bacon ... ..	10117	4	Decomposed & Fly Blown
5 boxes assorted fish	202	8	Decomposed & Fly Blown
26 dressed rabbits	109	0	Decomposed & Fly Blown
2 boxes apples ...	45	0	Badly Bruised and Rotted.
Total	11,556	13¾	

The amount of meat, offals and other foods condemned was:—

77,615 lbs. Beef	3,095 lbs. Mutton.
137,096 lbs. Pork.	91 lbs. 12 ozs. Imported Boneless Mutton.
3,972 lbs. Veal.	11,557 lbs. 13¾ oz. other Foods.

A total weight of 104 tons. 4 cwt. 0 qtrs. 19 lbs. 9¾ ozs.

In addition, the following based upon a statement by the County Council Weights and Measures Inspectors, is a summary of other samples obtained in the Winsford Urban District during the year 1952:

Name of Sample	Number obtained	Number adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Butter .. .. .	1	—
Cascara Sagrada Tablets .. ..	1	—
Cheese .. .. .	1	—
Coffee, ground .. .. .	1	—
Cooking Fat .. .. .	1	—
Margarine .. .. .	1	—
Malt Vinegar .. .. .	1	—
Meat Paste, Beef .. .. .	1	—
Milk .. .. .	18	1*
Parrishs' Chemical Food .. ..	1	—
Sausages, Beef .. .. .	1	—
Rum .. .. .	2	—
Whiskey .. .. .	1	—
TOTAL .. .. .	31	1*

\*This sample was certified to be “naturally deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 3.5 per cent.” As the sample was abnormal it was classed as “genuine” and therefore no action was taken

It is very satisfactory to note that all the samples were found to be *genuine*.



**(f) Food Poisoning.**

No cases of Salmonella or typhoid infections were notified during the year.

## Section F—Prevalence of, and Control Over, Infectious and Other Diseases

(1) The incidence of Infectious Diseases was low, as may be gathered from the following table:—

### Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1952.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	20	20	—
Measles .. .. .	13	1	—
Poliomyelitis .. .. .	3	2	1
Pneumonia .. .. .	3	3	1
Whooping Cough .. .. .	3	—	—

The three cases of poliomyelitis notified did not in any way appear connected with each other. One case arose in January the diagnosis only being made some weeks after the onset; the second case occurred in March and made a good recovery in the Davenham Hospital; the third case was an infant of one year of age who was admitted to the Monsall Hospital, Manchester, as a suspected case of meningitis, but later died as a result of Paralysis.

### Cases occurring in age groups 5 years and under and over 5 years:—

Disease	5 years and under	Over 5 years
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	12	8
Measles .. .. .	11	2
Poliomyelitis .. .. .	2	1
Pneumonia .. .. .	—	3
Whooping Cough .. .. .	2	1

## (2) Tuberculosis.

The table below details the ages of both new cases and deaths from both forms of Tuberculosis :—

### Tuberculosis.

*New Cases and Mortality during 1952.*

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1— 5 years .. ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 „ .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 „ .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 „ .. ..	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
35—45 „ .. ..	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
45—55 „ .. ..	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
55—65 „ .. ..	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	1
65 and upwards ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	7	2	3	—	3	1	1	1

During 1952, 6 cases were admitted to and five discharged from Sanatoria

Number of patients on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the years :—

1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952
73	83	97	103	93	96	90	92	93	92	72	74

## (3) Mass Radiography.

A further visit of the Regional Hospital Board's Mass Radiography Unit to the town was made during November/December and is reported upon provisionally as follows :—

The Unit visited 5 centres and x-rayed the following :—

	Males.	Females	Total.
Persons employed .. ..	1044	596	1640
School Children .. ..	170	173	343
Public .. ..	176	307	483
TOTAL	1390	1076	2466

The average response of persons employed was as follows:—

	Males.	Females	Total.
Available ... ..	1415	859	2274
Response ... ..	1044	596	1640
Percentage ... ..	73.7%	69.3%	72.1%

Of the 2466 examined on 35 m.m. film, 71 were recalled for large films—a recall rate of 2.8%

#### (4) Disinfection and Disinfestation.

The disinfection of 23 premises following cases of infectious disease has been carried out as a normal precautionary measure. In all instances 5 per cent solution of formaldehyde was used as the disinfecting agent. Where cases of pulmonary tuberculosis have occurred additional precautionary measures were advocated. These entailed a thorough “spring cleaning” of the patients’ rooms using plenty of soap and water, damp-dusting of furniture and walls with a suitable disinfectant (1/80 carbolic acid is recommended), a good airing for at least four days, washing of clothing and steam disinfection of bedding.

Five premises were treated for bed-bug infestation. Experience gained during post-war years had shown that the use of insecticidal smoke generators was cleaner and more efficacious than liquid spray. Consequently “Gammexane” or D.D.T. smoke generators were used at these five premises, in each case with success. Unless the infestation was exceptionally heavy it was not found necessary to make a second application.

Many householders are reluctant to report the presence of vermin, and such cases of infestation are usually discovered during routine housing visits or inspections.

Visits were made to premises infested with cockroaches, ants and other insects. Advisory leaflets were distributed and instructions given on methods of eradication. Preparations of 5 per cent. D.D.T. or 5 per cent. “Gammexane” plus pyrethrum powder were used for the destruction of these pests.

I would like to say in closing this report how much I appreciate the help I have received from the members of the Council and officials in dealing with the various matters which have arisen during the year.

W. S. SLATER, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.,

August, 1953.

Medical Officer of Health.

*N.B.—By the time this report returns from press, the removal of the combined Divisional and M.O.H. Office from its present quarters at Whitehall to Hartford Hill, Darwin Street, Northwich, where other County Health Services are already established, will no doubt have taken place.*







